

Governor**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ABC INVESTIGATORS, FBI AND LOCAL POLICE ARREST 5
ON STOLEN PROPERTY AND DRUG CHARGES**

Investigators from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, Special Operations Unit, along with Agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and local police arrested five people during a buy/bust operation in Chico.

The owner of Chinca's Market, located at 1406 Boucher Ave., in Chico, three employee(s) of the market, plus another individual were taken into custody this afternoon. The arrests were the result of a five month long investigation. ABC Investigators acted on information provided by the FBI's Chico office back in September 2004. Since then, ABC undercover investigators have sold purported stolen property to employees and the business owner, on nine separate occasions with a total retail value of over \$5,000.00.

The investigation culminated with undercover investigators selling 25 cases of purported stolen cigarettes, with a retail value of over \$27,000.00, to the owner at the store for \$11,800.00. The owner then sold the undercover agent one-half pound of marijuana for \$2,000. In addition, ABC and the FBI, with the assistance of officers from the California Department of Justice, the Butte County Sheriff's Department and the Chico Police Department served search warrants at Chinca's Market, a nearby residence, and the home of Chinca's Market Owner, Bilal Yasin, in connection with this investigation.

The ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.

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